

In a Report by the Government Statist on the Production of the State for 1925-26 laid before Parliament yesterday, is included a special review of the Wool Production of the State for the 16 seasons ended with 1925-26.

For the convenience of quickly summing up the trend of the industry, the period of sixteen years has been subdivided into three quinquennial periods viz. 1910-11, to 1914-15, 1915-16 to 1919-20 and 1920-21 to 1924-25 and the year 1925-26. Annual means for the three quinquenniums have been calculated for the numbers of sheep and lambs shorn, total weight of wool clip, average weight of fleece per sheep and sheep and lambs combined, grand total wool production in the grease (clip, wool on local skins exported, and wool fellmongered), grand total value and average value per lb. greasy.

Particulars for each season 1910-11 to 1925-26 and the foregoing annual quinquennium means are set forth in graphs.

Numbers of sheep and lambs shorn and wool-clip. The annual means for the three quinquennial periods, and these best indicate the movement of the industry, were as follows:-

Period	Sheep and Lambs Shorn No.	Wool Clip in Grease lbs.	Av. weight fleece	
			Sheep & Lambs lbs.	Sheep Only. lbs.
1910-11 to 1914-15	5,630,927	45,979,977	8.17	9.27
1915-16 to 1919-20	5,140,443	41,954,432	8.16	9.58
1920-21 to 1924-25	5,973,306	49,884,816	8.35	9.71

The Season 1925-26 was substantially greater than any of the previous fifteen seasons - the particulars for 1910-11 and the two last seasons being:-

Years	Sheep and Lambs Shorn No.	Wool Clip in Grease lbs.	Av. weight fleece	
			Sheep & Lambs lbs.	Sheep Only lbs.
1910-11	6,462,619	55,445,609	8.58	9.74
1924-25	6,324,158	55,642,383	8.80	10.55
1925-26	6,915,238	60,380,584	8.73	10.42

Grand Total Production (Wool-clip, wool on local skins exported, and value of same, and wool fellmongered.) The following are the annual means:-

Period	Production in Grease lbs.	Value		Used locally (Greasy) lbs.
		Total £	Per lb. greasy pence	
1910-11 to 1914-15	55,603,937	1,945,052	8.39	604,132
1915-16 to 1919-20	49,147,923	2,807,345	13.71	828,614
1920-21 to 1924-25	57,829,428	4,287,673	17.79	622,521

B.A.W.R.A. Distribution. In noting the values for the period 1915-16 to 1919-20 it should be remembered that these are exclusive of the profits accruing to growers from the British resale of wool purchased, and which have since been distributed by B.A.W.R.A. The following is the position:-

The Australian clip from November 1916 to June 30th 1920 were purchased by the Imperial Government at a flat rate of 15d. per lb. One half of the credit accumulated beyond this, resulting from profits on resale of Wool by the Imperial Government, was by the purchase agreement to be paid to the Australian growers. This State's share amounted to £2,592,016. Adding this to the seasons 1916-17, 1917-18, 1918-19 and 1919-20 the annual mean value of wool production for the quinquennium ended 1919-20 would be £3,325,748 instead of £2,807,345 and 16.24 pence per lb. instead of 13.71 pence.



Values for wool were very high for the three seasons 1922-23 to 1924-25 being on the average 17.76d., 22.00d. and 22.97d. per lb. greasy falling to 14.94d. per lb. in 1925-26. The following are the figures for the season 1925-26 in comparison with ~~the~~ 1910-11 and 1924-25.

Years	Production lbs.	Value	
		Total	Per lb. greasy
1910-11	63,874,727	2,256,909	35.34
1924-25	62,438,953	5,975,928	22.97
1925-26	62,007,266	4,295,702	14.94

Wool felled has fluctuated considerably, rising from 212,032 lbs. in 1910-11 to 1,820,498 lbs. in 1919-20, the three quinquennium periods averaging respectively 269,008 lbs., 1,022,369 lbs and 962,240 lbs and 678,146 lbs in 1925-26.

Wool on local skins exported. Owing to less skins being exported after 1914-15 a great falling off is noted. The figures for the three quinquenniums being 9,354,952 lbs, 6,171,122 lbs and 6,982,372 lbs and 7,948,56 lbs. for 1925-26.

Wool used locally. The heaviest consumption was during the war years reflected in the annual average for the middle period of this review. The annual averages for the three periods being 604,132 lbs, 828,614 lbs, 622,521 lbs and 607,986 lbs. in 1925-26.

ESTIMATED SHEEP DECEMBER 31ST, 1926  
Say 7,450,000

*W. L. Johnston*

Statistical Office,  
ADELAIDE,

17th May, 1927.

GOVERNMENT STATIST.  
Lbs. 50,380,584 550,000  
Average weight of fleece (sheep and lambs combined) Lbs. 8.73 9.65

3. INTERSTATE MOVEMENTS OF WOOL.

During the Season a considerable quantity of wool produced in N.S.W., Victoria and some from Western Australia reaches Adelaide for the Wool Sales and a fair quantity of this State's wool from the South is sent to Victoria. From the monthly records of the Railways and Harbors Departments, it is estimated that the quantity of interest to wool received in Adelaide for the Season 1926-27 was 8,150,000 lbs., the totals being Imports 21,150,000 lbs., Exports to States 13,000,000 lbs.

The State's wool-clip, would give an estimated grand total of 17,400,000 lbs. of wool in Adelaide for Sale and shipment for the Season 1926-27.

Statistical Office,  
ADELAIDE,  
18th May, 1927.

W. L. JOHNSTON,  
Government Statist.